- 7.(Amended) [Method] A method according to claim 6, further comprising

  the steps of: employing [characterized in that a] said loop link [is employed] by
  said signalling system [in order] to communicate signalling messages between

  two further signalling systems of the signalling means having [to which it
  comprises] a respective interface.
- 8.(Amended) [Method] A method according to claim 6, further comprising

  the step of: employing [characterized in that a] said loop link [is employed] by
  said signalling system to generate load for test purposes.
- 9.(Amended) [Method] A method according to claim 6, further comprising
  the steps of: employing [characterized in that a] said loop link [is employed] by
  said signalling [in order] to enable [a desired Internetworking [sic]] with other
  networks [for a network].
- 10.(Amended) [Method] A method according to [one of the claims] claim

  6 [through 9], further comprising the steps of: [characterized in that a common NI is allocated] to [a] said loop link at [the] an output and input side by said

  signalling system.

## **IN THE ABSTRACT**

Delete lines 2 and 8.

## **REMARKS**

The foregoing amendments to the specification and claims under Article 41 of the Patent Cooperation Treaty place the application into a form for prosecution before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office under 35 U.S.C. §371.

Accordingly, entry of these amendments before examination on the merits is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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